GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES AND MINERALS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:499
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2000
NON-OPERATIONAL COAL MINES
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are still a large number of coal mines in the country where coal mining work is not being done;

(b) if so, the details and location of such coal mines, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to the coal deposits in these coal mines and if so, the quantum of coal deposits therein;

(d) the number of underground and open cast mines out of the said mines; and

(e) the steps taken to start work in those mines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES & MINERALS (SMT. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (e): As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), there are 141 coal mines in the country where coal mining is not being done at present. The distribution of such coal mines, state-wise and type-wise is given below:-

State	Number of CIL mines where mining is not being done at present	Number of Underground mines	Number of Opencast mines
West Bengal	59	46	13
Bihar	31	21	10
Madhya Pradesh	38	31	7
Maharashtra	13	6	7
Total	141	104	37

These coal mines were closed on account of exhaustion of reserves, adverse geo-mining conditions, incidents of fire and inundation, unsafe mining conditions and other techno-economic unviabilities. As such, it is not possible to reopen such mines. The quantity of coal deposits left in 18 of these mines which were closed on the grounds other than exhaustion of reserves was 78.46 million tonnes on the respective dates of closure.